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Keats' source was Lempriere's *Classical Dictionary*, an obvious place to look, it would seem. All the editions (save one) of that oft-reprinted book that I have consulted contain in the article on Diana the sentence: "Among plants the poppy and the ditamy [sic] were sacred to her." Since Diana was the author of *Endymion's* sleep, and since the poppy is conventionally somniferous, the machinery of the magic growth naturally suggested itself to Keats, who, from love of strange words, coupled with the poppy the less familiar "ditamy" afforded by his source.

It may be remarked that we have here a clear indication that Keats did use Lempriere while writing his poems. I have noticed a few other, less striking, indications of this use in *Endymion* and in *Hyperion*.

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WOLSEY AND BLONDEL DE NESLE

According to Wolsey's biographer Cavendish, that extraordinarily successful politician actually uttered before his retirement a complaint whose substance is reproduced in the passage from *Henry VIII*:

Had I but served my God with half the zeal
I served my king, He would not in mine age
Have left me naked to mine enemies.

If Wolsey ever did say anything of the sort it must have been for the benefit of his audience, for there is no record of his having ever served anyone but Wolsey. But in any case, Wolsey, Shakespeare or Fletcher seems here to be indulging in literary reminiscence. In the twelfth century the Picard poet Blondel de Nesle had sung (See Mätzner, *Altfranzösische Lieder*, p. 51):

Se je deu tant amasse
com je fais celi
ki si me poene et lasse,
j'ëusse merci.

I submitted the passage to Mr. Horace Howard Furness, Jr., who is continuing the *Variorum Shakespeare*, and he commented thus on the citation:

"There have been pointed out several parallels to the passage in *Henry VIII*, Act III, sc. ii, to which you refer. You may see them by reference to the *Variorum* of 1821 (Boswell's Malone) vol. XIX, pp. 433 and 434, but as far as I know that quoted by you is the earliest . . . in any event Shakespeare's withers are unwrung, for it is now generally conceded that this portion of the scene is by Fletcher."

ROY TEMPLE HOUSE.

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